

Fontenac, Illinois
Jan 4 3 1873

Prof A. Gray

Dear Sir

Your favor
of the 24th ult is just at hand -
I thank you most heartily for
remembering my note the exchange
with some one for the plants of
Northern Europe - But now I
want to make the most I
can of the opportunity presented
through your kindness and would
therefore prefer to collect next
season especially for this exchange,
sending only good fresh specimens
of all the Western plants I could
collect myself or get from Mr.
Babcock or Mr Patterson of species
which do not grow near me -
I'd rather not spoil my credit
by a meagre sending at first